



Kansas Environmental News

October 2001

Secretary's Corner

The 2001 Pollution Prevention (P2) Awards ceremony took place September 19 during the Kansas Environmental Conference in Hutchinson. Cross Manufacturing (Lewis, Kansas) and Prestige, Inc. (Neodesha, Kansas) were the recipients of this year's P2 awards. Utilicorp United, Inc. received an Honorable Mention for their involvement with the wind power project near Montezuma and Fort Riley received Notable Achievement for their Model Motor Pool Program. KDHE warmly congratulates these facilities for recognizing the need to prevent pollution.

The Office of the Secretary has completed its move into the Signature Building in Downtown Topeka, and we are quite pleased. Except for the Division of Health and Environmental Laboratories, all of KDHE's

Topeka staff will soon be located in this building. DHEL will remain at Forbes Field due to logistical constraints, but our staff at the laboratories will continue their essential service as part of KDHE.

In light of the recent terrorist attacks, we have established temporary regulations which affect the application process for hazardous waste transporter licenses.

The events of September 11 have awakened us to the prospect of terrorism in a way most of us have never before felt. Our deepest sympathies and thoughts go out to the victims and the families of the horrible events that so affect our nation.

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KDHE at the Kansas State Fair

Thanks to numerous partners and the support of many people, KDHE had another successful year at the Kansas State Fair. This year the **Great Hunt for Your Health and Environment** featured health issues like clean hands, children car safety and anti tobacco messages along with our regular recycling, composting, source reduction and buy recycled product themes. Hundreds of people participated. Some of the partners included: *The State Fire Marshall* exhibiting smoke detectors; the *Reno County Extension Service* demonstrating home composting; Wichita's *Wood Recycle and Compost Center* displaying colored wood mulch and compost; and KDHE's Bureau of Consumer Health, Food Protection & Consumer Safety Section ***Did You Wash 'Em?*** hand washing sinks at the McDonald's Petting Zoo sponsored by KDHE and *Waste Management, Inc.* The sinks were
(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1) so popular an additional unit was added and more resources were needed to keep them stocked. The Bureau of Health Promotion provided a great **Physical Fitness: It Is Every Where You Go** booth, Teens Against Smoking in Kansas youth participated and The Kansas Safe Kids Coalition's **Safe Kids Buckle Up Mobile Car Seat Check Up Van** were other features.

With the help of KDHE staff and volunteers, thousands of KDHE bags were distributed on Friday, September 14th, **Kansas Don't Spoil It! DAY** and numerous people were recruited for our activities. Half a dozen people recruited for **America Recycles Day** and **Keep Kansas Beautiful**; hundreds of people enjoyed the eco-entertainer and magician, Steve Trash shows at the Kansas Farm Bureau Arena and thousands learned more about KDHE and some of the environmental and health issues of the day.

The Great Hunt participants won wooden yo yo's and grand prize winners won *Second Chance Recycling* recycled plastic lumber picnic table and bird baths, or recycled steel (yard art) birds provided by *American Recycle Center*, Independence. KDHE's health and environmental activities at the Kansas State Fair are another example of how people can form partnerships and work together to make a difference.

Kent Foerster & Ken Powell, Bureau of Waste Management



Statewide Collection Programs

Kansas Clean Sweep is a statewide collection program aimed at removing unwanted pesticides from Kansas farms and ranches. The events allow for **free** disposal of canceled, obsolete, unwanted, unused, and damaged pesticides. Any farmer or rancher who operates in Kansas is eligible to participate in the program. KDHE's Bureau of Waste Management has scheduled nine collection events in the western third of the state in October and November. Last year, the Kansas Clean Sweep program removed over 134,000 pounds of pesticides from Kansas farms and ranches.

The Bureau of Waste Management is also planning a school laboratory chemical collection program. This program will offer the removal of obsolete or unwanted hazardous chemicals from Kansas secondary school laboratories. A pilot project will be implemented this fall with the statewide campaign projected to begin in the spring of 2002.

For more information on these statewide collection programs, please contact Bureau of Waste Management staff member Cathy Colglazier at (785) 291-3132.

Cathy Colglazier, Bureau of Waste Management

KDHE REGULATIONS IN PROCESS					updated 10/16/01	
REGULATION	DIV. DRAFT	EPA REVIEW	DOA REVIEW	AG REVIEW	PUBLIC HEARING	EFFECTIVE
Waste Management						
Groundwater(A)	*10/01	*11/01	*11/01	*12/01	*2/02	*4/02
Vertical Expans, Spec. Waste(A)	*2/02	*3/02	*3/02	*4/02	*6/02	*8/02
Permit Fees, Tonnage Fees(A)	*3/02	N/A	*4/02	*5/02	*7/02	*9/02
Medical Waste(A)	*4/02	*5/02	*5/02	*6/02	*8/02	*10/02
SW Planning (A)	*12/01	N/A	*1/01	*12/01	*4/01	*6/01
Const/Demo(N)	*1/02	N/A	*2/02	*3/02	*5/02	*7/02
Construction Quality Assurance	*11/01	N/A	*12/01	*1/02	*3/02	*5/02
Hazardous Waste Update (A)	1/01	1/01	*10/01	*11/01	*1/02	*3/02
Air and Radiation:						
50% Permit-by-Rule(A)	*4/01		*10/01	*10/01	*2/02	*3/02
Acid Rain Permits(A)	9/01		*10/01	*10/01	*2/02	*3/02
Acid Rain NOx(N)	9/01		*10/01	*10/01	*2/02	*3/02
Opacity Rule(A)	*10/01		*11/01	*11/01	*2/02	*3/02
Update Stds(NSPS,MA)	9/01		*10/01	*10/01	*1/02	*2/02
MSWLF EG Rules	*12/01		*1/02	*1/02	*4/02	*5/02
Solvent Metal Cleaning(A)	3/01		*10/01	*10/01	*2/02	*3/02
Consolidated Air Rule (N)	*12/01		*1/02	*1/01	*4/02	*5/02
Water						*10/01
Surface Water Qual. Stds(A)	5/01	*12/02	5/7/01	5/7/01	7/24/01	8/31/01
Operator Certification(A)	10/00	N/A	3/2/01	3/2/01	5/24, 5/29	8/31/01
Surface Water Qual. Stds(A)**	*9/01	*12/02	*10/01	*10/01	*12/01	*02/02
*Projected						
**Water Quality Standards will address items passed by the Kansas Legislature in SB204, effective September 1. New(N), Amended(A), Revoked(R)						

Availability of List of Completed Use Attainability Analyses Designating Recreational Uses

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is responsible for designating uses of surface waters as a part of establishing surface water quality standards. Designated uses are listed in the *Kansas Surface Water Register* and adopted by reference in regulation (K.A.R. 28-16-28d). A use attainability analysis (UAA) is a procedure to evaluate water bodies and assign designated uses. The federal regulations (40 CFR 131.10) allow a state to designate a use without conducting a UAA, but a UAA must be conducted to remove a designated use. The 1999 *Kansas Surface Water Register* listed 1,292 stream segments for which the Department had not conducted a UAA and had not assigned a recreational use. Some recreational uses defined in prior surface water quality standards (dating to the 1970's) were included in the *1999 Register* without a UAA.

In compliance with Substitute Senate Bill 204 enacted by the 2001 Legislature, the Department is to make public a listing of currently classified stream segments for which:

- designated use attainability analyses for recreational use has been completed;
- recreational use has been determined not attainable;
- designated use attainability analyses for recreational use has not been completed.

This list is available at <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/befs/>. For a print copy contact Ricquelle Landis, Bureau of Environmental Field Services, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 430, Topeka, Kansas, 66612 (phone 785-296-6603).

Theresa Hodges, Bureau of Environmental Field Services

Kansas Environmental Conference 2001

This year's annual environmental conference in Hutchinson, Kansas featured Dr. John Paling who delivered an inspiring presentation regarding the reality of risks. Dr. Paling, who juggled delayed flights and mechanical difficulties to travel from Florida, provided not only an inspiring message, but also humor at times, with his videos of bees to alligators.

Following Dr. Paling's presentation, there were over 20 concurrent sessions for attendees to choose from. The annual pollution prevention awards were presented to Cross Manufacturing and Prestige, Inc. with Honorable Mention to UtiliCorp for their Montezuma Wind Farm Project, and Notable Achievement to Fort Riley.

On Wednesday evening, conferees were invited to attend the Kansas Cosmosphere and visit the museum and Omni movie. While waiting for the movie or resting from visiting the museum, a dessert bar and coffee was available and this also provided an ideal time to visit with friends, clients or KDHE staff. The conference evaluations indicated that everyone who attended the Cosmosphere enjoyed the evening, and would like to have evening events in the future (although several evaluations indicated that it would be difficult to find something as enjoyable as the desserts and Cosmosphere.)

Next year, the environmental conference will be held in Topeka at the Capital Plaza Hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 27-28, 2002 and we'll try to plan an evening event as memorable as the Cosmosphere (which will be difficult.) If you are interested in helping plan the program, please call us at 785-296-0669 or 1-800-357-6087. The planning committees will meet this winter and provide topics and speaker ideas for next year. The committees meet only once for two or three hours to help us determine the needs of communities, businesses and others and we are looking for topics that *you* need

Pollution Prevention Awards presented to Kansas Companies

Two Kansas companies received Pollution Prevention Awards presented by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment at the annual environmental conference in Hutchinson today. Cross Manufacturing, Lewis, and Prestige, Inc., Neodesha, were honored with the awards.

Cross Manufacturing is a Kansas owned and operated company established in 1949. Cross has three manufacturing facilities located at Hays, Lewis and Pratt, with the corporate offices at Overland Park. Cross Manufacturing employees 300 people and manufactures hydraulic pumps, valves, cylinders and fittings for a world wide market. Cross has demonstrated a commitment to environmental compliance, waste reduction and recycling. Cross has worked hard to comply with regulations and in many cases has taken the lead and gone above and beyond the requirements in the company's quest for excellence. The company is to be commended for several areas of environmental accomplishment.

In 1995, an initiative to reduce hazardous and solid wastes began in earnest. Cross Manufacturing, Inc.'s Lewis facility experienced an 86% reduction in hazardous

Watch for the 2002 Pollution Prevention Awards application on the KDHE web site www.kdhe.state.ks.us. Application information will be available after January 1, 2002.

waste generation alone with several major accomplishments in other areas.

Under the Kansas Water Pollution Control Act, Cross was the first company in the State of Kansas to be issued an "No Discharge" Kansas Pretreatment Permit by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, as no regulated wastes are discharged into the city's sanitary sewer. After the installation of an evaporation unit for industrial waste water was installed, the company saved an estimated \$135,000 per year or a total of \$742,500.00 since the beginning of the initiative.

Cross was one of the first to achieve "Light Industry" exempt status under the Storm Water Act prior to the Act becoming law on October 1, 1992. Through this project, they avoided the cost of a permit and ongoing monitoring and compliance at an estimated cost savings of \$8,000 per year and eliminated the potential for contaminated runoff.

In 1995, the first year of recycling rinse water for the electroplating process, Cross Manufacturing realized an 89% reduction in this waste stream and a 77% reduction in disposal costs, based on a five year average.

Cross reduced flammable hazardous waste generation by 89%. In the year 2001, Cross Manufacturing converted the product painting system from solvent based to water based paint, and reduced the flammable waste stream an additional 96%. In the year 2002, the flammable waste stream will be at normal household use levels or Zero Flammable Waste Generation status. Raymond Law, and all Cross Manufacturing staff are to be commended for their outstanding efforts in reducing or eliminating pollution through their company's initiatives.

Prestige, Inc. is awarded for their efforts in UV Cured Coatings for Wood Finishing, Recycling of Acetone, and use of Sawdust for Composting. In 1992, Prestige, Inc., began a search for a high quality finish for their all-wood kitchen cabinets and associated components. At the same time, Prestige was also searching for ways to reduce VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) emissions from current finishing equipment processes. Coatings were traditional solvent-borne stains, sealers and topcoats. New equipment was needed for both an automated flat line used for finishing flat pieces and for an

This year's winners proudly accepted awards presented by Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt, Director, Division of Environment. Pictured from left to right are David Tweedie (Prestige Inc.) Dr. Hammerschmidt, Raymond Law and John Cross (Cross

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automated spray line used to finish face frames, doors and drawer fronts. From this search and months of testing, Prestige made the change to UV-curable coatings. Initially, Prestige wanted to use waterborne sealers and topcoats in its new UV-curable process, but the finish quality was not achievable in day-to-day operations and the appearance of the finished product did not meet company standards. In March 1993, Prestige decided to use solvent-borne UV-curable sealers and topcoats, which continue to be used. These coatings achieve the desired results, in both quality and durability.

Prestige has an outstanding acetone recycling project. With the addition of the automated spray line, there are two automatic spray booths with a portion of the booths partially self cleaning. Although several different solvents were tested for cleaning, acetone proved to be the most efficient. Prestige was using 110 gallons of virgin acetone per day solely for cleaning purposes, creating several concerns. Usage rates and costs of virgin acetone increased dramatically and it created another "hazardous waste" stream as the acetone from the cleaning was mixed with hazardous chemicals in the cleaning process. VOCs were significantly increasing. The company examined how to reduce usage of new acetone, reduce hazardous waste, and most importantly, reduce the amount of VOCs released. Recycling of the spent acetone seemed to be the logical answer. The total savings realized to date are \$239,354.00. Savings estimated for 2001 alone are nearly \$40,000.00. 385 tons of potential VOCs were not emitted (EPA has removed acetone from the list of reportable VOCs.)

Several options for wood dust were explored: alternative energy source, as an additive for fuel blending or material for wood pellets. In the spring of 2000, a local individual approached Prestige with the idea of composting the sawdust. Tri Valley Composting began doing business in June, 2000 and in the first year of operation, 2,470 tons of sawdust were kept out of the landfill saving Prestige \$9,000 in fees. Prestige pays Tri Valley \$6 per ton to take the wood dust, which will be reduced until no costs are incurred, for a future savings of at least \$24,000.00 per year. David Tweedie and Prestige are commended for their outstanding efforts in pollution prevention.

Utilicorp United, Montezuma Windfarm Project received an "Honorable Mention" in the New Initiatives category at the awards ceremony for their windfarm project in Montezuma, Kansas. UtiliCorp United Inc. is bringing non-polluting electric generation technology to Kansas with its announcement that UtiliCorp would purchase the entire output from a 110-megawatt wind farm to be constructed near Montezuma, Kansas. FPL Energy(Florida Power and Light, LLC a non-regulated subsidiary of FPL Group., Inc., is constructing and will operate the facility which is expected to start producing electricity late this fall but presently is still under construction.

Fort Riley received Notable Achievement for their efforts in their Model Motor Pool Program in the New Initiatives category this year.

Janet Neff, Bureau of Environmental Field Services



America Recycles Day!
November 15, 2001

Radon Action Week

The Kansas Radon Program aligned with the American Lung Association and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in a major campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure, and to encourage them to take action to identify and fix radon problems in their homes. October 14-21, 2001 was National Radon Action Week which kicked off with a presidential message from the White House asking Americans to take preventative action on this health risk. The purpose of the week is to draw attention to radon as a serious public health issue and, more importantly, to motivate Americans to take action to protect themselves from radon health effects. It is a health hazard that is present in elevated levels in about 25% of Kansas homes, which compares with over 6% of homes across all of America.

Radon is a naturally occurring, invisible, odorless gas that is harmlessly dispersed in outdoor air, but when trapped in buildings, can be harmful at elevated levels. The science on radon has been formidable over the years, but never before have we had such overwhelming scientific consensus and robust data to support that exposure to elevated levels of radon causes lung cancer in humans.

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in February 1998, presented the findings of their Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation (BEIR) VI Report: "The Health Effects of Exposure to Indoor Radon." This report is the most definitive accumulation of scientific data on indoor radon. It confirms that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S., and that it is a serious public health problem. The NAS concluded that radon causes between 15,000 and 22,000 lung cancer deaths each year. However, because you can't see or smell radon, people tend to minimize the health effects and ignore the possibility that it might exist in elevated levels in their homes.

Testing homes for elevated levels of radon is simple and inexpensive. And, if discovered, radon problems can be fixed. Radon test kits that meet EPA guidelines are available at your county extension office, local hardware stores, home improvement stores, some supermarkets, other retail outlets, or directly from a laboratory. Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for a cost similar to that for many common home repairs such as painting or having a new water heater installed (anywhere from \$800 to about \$2,500).

The Kansas Radon Program urges Kansas residents to take action by testing their homes for elevated levels of radon. It is a serious public health hazard with a straightforward solution. For more information on radon, radon testing, and radon mitigation, call the Kansas Radon Program at 1-800-693-5343, or visit our Web site at www.engext.ksu.edu/radon.

Mary Wirth, Kansas Radon Program at Kansas State University

Mark your calendar today for the 2002 environmental conference!

**August 27-28, 2002
Capital Plaza Hotel
Topeka, Kansas**

Call us at 785-296-0669 if you are interested in being a part of the
planning committee for the 2002 conference.
We need YOUR good ideas for topics and speakers!

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